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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/666,257	09/21/2000	Adrian Yap	PD-200057	8880

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THE DIRECTV GROUP INC
PATENT DOCKET ADMINISTRATION RE/R11/A109
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EXAMINER

BOCCIO, VINCENT F

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/666,257

Applicant(s)

YAP ET AL

Examiner

Vincent F. Boccio

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Amendment of 6/20/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 15 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 14, 16, 17 and 24-27 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

The Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 2616.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 6/20/05 against amended claims 1, 18 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
{A} In re page 9, applicant states, "Muto does not disclose or suggest that a graphics accelerator and its associated memory could or should be used to facilitate such reverse playback. To the contrary the use of a frame buffer, which is part of a decoder ...".
{B} In re page 10, applicant further states, "Chauvel nor Muto disclose or suggest using the decoder and associated memory in combination with a graphics accelerator and associated memory.".

In response the examiner fails to agree.

A graphics accelerator is defined as,
"Any Hardware used to increase rendering speed" and/or
"Graphics accelerators speed up the displaying of images on the monitor making it possible to achieve effects not otherwise possible.", Goggle, WEB search "Graphics Accelerator".

Based on these conventional definitions, Muto reads on having an accelerator in view of Frame Buffer 2-3 of Fig. 1, because, the memory serves a purpose of allowing for reverse reproduction using the memories, wherein a standard or conventional MPEG decoder does not provide or have these memory elements and does not process reverse playback or trick play in the reverse using intra-frames (I frames or pictures) in additional or and inter-fames {Ps & Bs type pictures or frames} of a GOP, being frames (I, P and B) of an MPEG stream.

Wherein conventional Trick in reverse uses only I frames, the Buffer 2-3 would not be, or is not deemed required, as those skilled in the art would realize, after a careful analysis of Muto and conventional MPEG decoders, such as Chauvel.

Further, the 2-3 Frame buffer is an extension or additional processing hardware to facilitate reverse reproduction using inter-fames (Ps & Bs), as well as I frames, in view of element 2 showing decode processor 2-2 the frame buffer is not part of a standard MPEG decoder, but can be classified in view of the definition of graphics accelerator that the extension buffer is in effect a graphics accelerator to perform reverse trick play,

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using inter-frames, as well as intra-frames, as the examiner deems that those skilled in the art would clearly understand.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1-12, 15, 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chauvel et al. (US 6,369,855) in view of Muto (US 5,799,129).

The examiner incorporates by reference the last action against the claims **1-12, 15, 18-23**.

As applied and addressed above, Muto does teach and render obvious, a graphics accelerator being a Frame Buffer 2-3, to facilitate reverse reproductions operations using inter-fames in addition to Intra-fames, in view of the definition of a graphics accelerator.

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Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 13-14, 16-17, 24-25, 26-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Contact Fax Information


Any response to this action should be faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, for communication as intended for entry,
this Central Fax Number as of 7/15/05

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to the examiner of record, Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Vincent F. Boccio (571) 272-7373.

Primary Examiner, Boccio, Vincent
9/6/05


VINCENT BOCCIO
PRIMARY EXAMINER